



## Knightly News

Volume 3

November 2008

Number 5

### Calendar of Events

Nov 14	Fourth Degree Meeting 6:30 PM
Nov 15	2nd Degree Exemplification 9:00 AM (St Stephen School)
<b>Nov 16</b>	<b>Raymond James Stadium (Bucs vs Vikings) 1:00 Game; 8:00 Departure</b>
Nov 19	Faith and Morales 7:30 PM Mary Owens of Black Diamond Associates: Topic: Taking Your Business to the Next Level in Difficult Times (Church MPR)
Nov 23-29	National Family Week
Nov 27	Happy Thanksgiving
Nov 29-30	Fourth Degree Exemplification Orlando—Marriott World Resort
<b>Nov 30</b>	<b>Raymond James Stadium (Bucs vs Saints) 1:00 Game; 8:00 Departure</b>
<b>Dec 3</b>	<b>Council Business Meeting 8:00 PM (Church MPR)</b>
Dec 8	Immaculate Conception
Dec 8-10	Parish Mission
Dec 12	Fourth Degree Meeting 6:30 PM
Dec 13	Respect Life Rosary 6:00 AM
Dec 13	VA Hospital Christmas Party 11:30 AM
Dec 19	Council Christmas Party 6:30 AM
Dec 20	1st Degree Exemplification 9:00 AM (St Stephen School)
<b>Dec 21</b>	<b>Raymond James Stadium (Bucs vs Chargers) 8:15 PM Game; 3:15 Departure</b>
Dec 25	Christmas
Dec 26	Feast of St. Stephen
<b>Dec 28</b>	<b>Raymond James Stadium (Bucs vs Raiders) 1:00 Game; 8:00 Departure</b>
Jan 1	New Year's Day

### Congratulations to:

Knight of the Month—Patrick Roach

Family of the Month—Steve Bapp



## Officers

### Grand Knight

*Julio Alvarez, Jr*

### Deputy Grand Knight

*Chuck Lusky*

### Chancellor

*Jerry Westbrook*

### Warden

*Greg Celestan*

### Treasurer

*John Sepessy*

### Advocate

*Jim Kelly*

### Recorder

*Paul Crescimone*

### Inside Guard

*John Columbia III*

### Outside Guard

*Dan Laughman  
Anthony Giaccone*

### Trustees

Three Years- *Rick Hughes, PGK*  
Two Years—*Nick Turco, PGK*  
One Year-*Ed Milius, PGK*

### Field Agents

*Thomas P. Cummings III*  
813-625-2444

Email: [Thomas.Cummings@kofc.org](mailto:Thomas.Cummings@kofc.org)

*Thomas P. Cummings IV*  
813-857-7345

Email: [Tom.Cummings@kofc.org](mailto:Tom.Cummings@kofc.org)

## Directors & Chairs

### Membership Director

*Darin O'Neal*

### Program Director

*Chuck Lusky*

### Church Committee

*Matt Preszler*

### Community Committee

*Herb Swoope*

### Council Committee

*Scott Sheffield*

### Family Committee

*John Montaldo*

### Youth Committee

*Tom Bailey*

### Degree Team Captain

*Rick Hughes*

### Public Relations

*Greg Grambor*

### RJS Concessions Contact

*Julio Alvarez, Jr.*

### Newsletter Editor

*Nick Turco*

### Columbian Squires Counselors

*Rob Fisher  
Tom Bailey*

### Resource Links

#### Council Web Site

[www.kofc14084.org](http://www.kofc14084.org)

#### Florida State Council

[www.floridastatecouncil.com](http://www.floridastatecouncil.com)

#### Supreme Council:

[www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org)



## Grand Knight's Report

Julio Alvarez, Jr  
Julio Alvarez 662-1845  
jalvarez8@tampabay.rr.com

### To my Brother Knights and your Families;

First let me please apologize for the lateness of this newsletter. Due to technical problems on my home PC I've been the single factor which has delayed timely publishing. My thanks to our Editor, Sir Knight Nick Turco, for his patience and understanding.

I want to thank all of you who participated in the multiple Council events last month. In particular, Brother Tom Cummings III, who with his assistant Bonnie, provided us an insightful presentation on budgeting. The lecture was very well received and appropriate to our times. I've asked Tom to consider conducting a second presentation to provide and attendance opportunity to those who missed the first session. I also must thank the Family Committee for putting together the Pot Luck (Open House) Social, our first of the year - plus our Service Program Directors who provided information regarding their programs to those in attendance. Finally, I was amazed by the interest shown by the ladies attending the presentation by Dale Szgurzynski on the Columbiettes. As I mentioned to the many ladies present, I pledge the support of our Council in their endeavor to install an Auxiliary here at St Stephen in support of our efforts in our Parish and Community. Next week you will finally be receiving my letter outlining my goals for our Council and the survey I would like you to complete in preparation for a telephonic survey, assisted by your Service Program Directors. Please complete the data right away and keep it nearby to help assist you in responding once you are called. You may additionally contact our Financial Secretary to verify and/or provide your administrative data and contact information or even turn the form into any Council Officer or Service Program Director by the 28th of this month. The purpose of this survey is to, first, make contact with every member and see how you and your family are doing; verify, correct or update your contact information; and finally,

gauge your perceptions regarding the Knights of Columbus, in particular our Council, how we are serving the community, how we are meeting your expectations, any ideas you have on what we might be able to do, or not do, to increase your participation, gauge your commitment and where your interests lie and overall any ideas on how to improve our Council. This is very important for the Council, so I ask you to please participate and respond to the phone inquiries by your Brother Knights.

***Our focus this month is on Rememberance. Please remember our Brothers who have passed; Brothers John Columbia Sr, and Marty Bergen, and remember our Veterans - living and deceased, who have served to preserve the freedoms we and others throughout the world enjoy; however, often take for granted.***

I want to highlight a few of the most important events remaining this month as well as some very important events you won't want to miss in December. Here are my highlighted events for (*listed in order of occurrence*):

1. **Second Degree Exemplification (Saturday, November 15; 9 am)** We expect Please make an effort to come out and support our Brothers advancing to the Second Degree of our Order in large show of unity! Please note the degree begins one hour earlier than usual). Additionally, our Columbian Squires Investiture Ceremony occurs at the conclusion of our Degree. Please consider staying and supporting these fine young men who represent our future.
2. **Faith & Morals Program (Wednesday, November 19; 7 pm)** at the Church Multi-Purpose Room, on the topic of ***Taking your Business to the Next Level*** eting in these tough economic times, being presented by Brother Tom Cummings III. This is truly an event you will not want to miss.



## Grand Knight 's Report cont 'd

3. **Parish Advent Gathering (Thursday, November 20)** at St Stephen Catholic Church. The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring and running the Hay Ride venue led by Brother Don Amberg. Please contact him if you are interested and able to assist. At the very least, attend this event wearing your KofC Shirts, hats and Badges and offer your assistance as required.

4. **Fourth Degree Exemplification (Saturday, November 29)** at the Marriot World Resort in Orlando. We have 11 approved Candidates representing St Stephen Council who will be exemplified in the highest Degree of our Order this weekend. Please keep these future 'Sir Knights' and their families in your prayers over the Exemplification weekend

5. **Veterans Christmas Pizza Party (Saturday, December 13; 11:30 am)** at the Nursing Home at James Haley Veterans Hospital. Please make this a part of the Christmas experience for you and your family. In support of our 4th Degree Assembly work with our Veterans, we are planning to take family and friends to share in a mere couple of hours with the Veterans residing in the Nursing Home at the VA Hospital to share the spirit of Christmas and our families with those who don't. What a great way for those who've given much for our Nation to see that we care. This will mean much to these men and women to see children and families breaking bread and talking with them. Members of our St Stephen Choir will be participating by singing Christmas Carols for the residents. I want to encourage maximum participation from as many families as can spare a couple of hours on this Saturday.

6. **Family Christmas Social (Friday, December 19; 6:30 pm)** at the Church Multi-Purpose Room. The Council will provide a Spaghetti and Meatball

Dinner and request you bring a favorite Christmas Desert to share. We are planning a simple yet special program for the Children on the real meaning of Christmas, display our Knights in Action year in photos music video, and will also conduct a WHITE ELEPHANT AUCTION! More to follow - but please consider making this part of your Holiday plans.

7. **Parking for Christmas Eve Masses (Wednesday, December 24)** at St Stephen Catholic Church. Please support Brother Ed Sleyzak in this very important requirement for our Parish.

Please continue to ask yourself why you joined the Knights of Columbus and get involved. Without exception – the Brothers and Families who participate in the life of the Council and our service to our Parish and Community never regret the love and spirit that emanates from the time we spend together – whether it be sweating while completing some difficult but worthy project for someone in need, or enjoying each other's company by sharing laughs, meals and spirituality at church and social events. You and your family are what Father Michael J. McGivney thought about when he founded this great Order. It is so important in these days that we develop a foundation of faith and commitment to our God, our Church and our families...and what better organization has proven it's worth in this very endeavor.

**VIVAT JESUS!**

Julio

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## Keep in our Prayers

John Joyce, Tom Bailey, Ed Slezak's mother, Tim Donahue's father, Dom Amberg's mother-in-law, John Sepessy's bother, and all those who are in distress.

Also please remember Sir Knight Art LeBleu, a member of the Fourth Degree Assembly, and Mother Seton Council, who passed away Wednesday evening.

Wake: Tuesday, Nov 18 6-8 PM.  
Hillsborough Memorial Gardens  
2323 West Brandon Boulevard  
Brandon

Funeral: Wednesday, Nov 19 10:30 AM  
Nativity Catholic Church

Interment: Immediately following Funeral Mass at Hillsborough Memorial Gardens



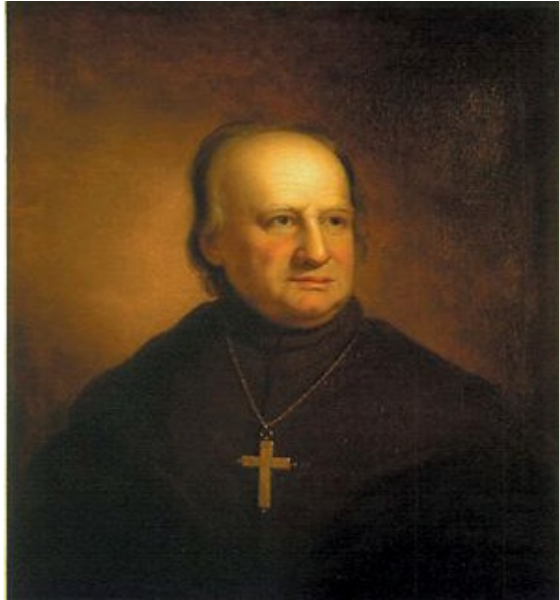
## Chaplain's Report

*Rev Bill Swengros*

689-4900

*pastor@ststephencatholic.org*

My Brother Knights,



Recently I came across this beautiful prayer written by the first Bishop of the United States, His Excellency John Carroll of Baltimore for our Nation and the Civil Authorities. I think it is just as appropriate as when he first penned it ...

We pray, Thee O Almighty and Eternal God! Who through Jesus Christ hast revealed Thy glory to all nations, to preserve the works of Thy mercy, that Thy Church, being spread through the whole world, may continue with unchanging faith in the confession of Thy Name.

We pray Thee, who alone art good and holy, to endow with heavenly knowledge, sincere zeal, and sanctity of life, our chief bishop, Pope Benedict, the Vicar of Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the government of his Church; our own Bishop, Robert, all other bishops, prelates, and pastors of the Church; and especially those who are appointed to exercise amongst us the functions of the holy ministry, and conduct Thy people into the ways of salvation.

We pray Thee O God of might, wisdom, and justice! Through whom authority is rightly administered, laws are enacted, and judgment decreed, assist with Thy Holy Spirit of counsel and fortitude the President of these United States, that his administration may be conducted in righteousness, and be eminently useful to Thy people

over whom he presides; by encouraging due respect for virtue and religion; by a faithful execution of the laws in justice and mercy; and by restraining vice and immorality. Let the light of Thy divine wisdom direct the deliberations of Congress, and shine forth in all the proceedings and laws framed for our rule and government, so that they may tend to the preservation of peace, the promotion of national happiness, the increase of industry, sobriety, and useful knowledge; and may perpetuate to us the blessing of equal liberty.

We pray for his excellency, the governor of this state, for the members of the assembly, for all judges, magistrates, and other officers who are appointed to guard our political welfare, that they may be enabled, by Thy powerful protection, to discharge the duties of their respective stations with honesty and ability.

We recommend likewise, to Thy unbounded mercy, all our brethren and fellow citizens throughout the United States, that they may be blessed in the knowledge and sanctified in the observance of Thy most holy law; that they may be preserved in union, and in that peace which the world cannot give; and after enjoying the blessings of this life, be admitted to those which are eternal.

Finally, we pray to Thee, O Lord of mercy, to remember the souls of Thy servants departed who are gone before us with the sign of faith and repose in the sleep of peace; the souls of our parents, relatives, and friends; of those who, when living, were members of this congregation, and particularly of such as are lately deceased; of all benefactors who, by their donations or legacies to this Church, witnessed their zeal for the decency of divine worship and proved their claim to our grateful and charitable remembrance.

To these, O Lord, and to all that rest in Christ, grant, we beseech Thee, a place of refreshment, light, and everlasting peace, through the same Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior. Amen.

May God bless you!  
Fr. Bill Swengros  
Chaplain





## Membership Report

Please congratulate Matthew Mancuso, Christopher Siderio, Robert Ferrante, Alex Brophay, David Cozier, Dennis Giesey, Francis Xavier and T. Fisher who became a Knight in our Council on October 18, 2008 at the Exemplification held at St. Stephen school. Also the following Brothers advanced to the third degree in our order on October 11, 2008 at the ceremony held at St. Clement Catholic Church: Rob Fisher, John Kulesa and Jose Acevedo. Congratulations!

**11-11-2008 First Degree Exemplification**, at Nativity Catholic Church, candidates must be there at 6:00 and the degree starts at 7:00.

**12-13-2008** We have a **First Degree Exemplification** at St Stephen School **Dress Code is Casual** the Ceremony begins at 9:00 am. Sponsors must have there applicants there by 7:45 a.m. Questions about Admissions should be directed to our Admissions Coordination Team Leader, **Sir Knight Bill Queenan** at Email: [admissions@kofc14084.org](mailto:admissions@kofc14084.org), Phone: 651-4140.

### PLEASE CONTINUE TO WORK ON YOUR ADVANCEMENT REQUIREMENTS!

Being a Knight means being involved and learning about our Order, our Principles, and most importantly... learning to better practice our Faith. I encourage each and every one of you, whether working towards a degree or sponsoring a potential Candidate, to make the effort to grow as a Knight by taking an active part in achieving the requirements to advancement in the Order.

Finally, please continue your efforts to build the Council and the Order by recruiting **quality** Catholic Gentlemen with the energy and spirit to make a difference in our Community.

Fraternally,  
Darin  
Membership Director

## Buc 's schedule—please volunteer to help

Game	Date	Opponent	Depart St Stephen	Stadium Check In	Stand Opens	Kick Off	Remarks/Status
1	Sun, Aug 17	New England Patriots	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	6:00PM	8:00PM	Complete (7 volunteers)
2	Sat, Aug 23	Jacksonville Jaguars	2:30 PM	3:30 PM	5:30 PM	7:30 PM	Complete (11 volunteers)
3	Sun, Sep 14	Atlanta Falcons	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	2:05 PM	4:05 PM	Complete (12 Volunteers)
4	Sun, Sep 28	Green Bay Packers	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	Complete (12 Volunteers)
5	Sun, Oct 12	Carolina Panthers	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	Complete (12 Volunteers)
6	Sun, Oct 19	Seattle Seahawks	3:15 PM	4:15 PM	6:15 PM	8:15 PM	Complete (11 Volunteers)
7	Sun, Nov 16	Minnesota Vikings	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	Overstaffed (16 Vols)
8	Sun, Nov 30	New Orleans Saints	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	Fully Staffed
9	Sun, Dec 21	San Diego Chargers	3:15 PM	4:15 PM	6:15 PM	8:15 PM	Need 7 more volunteers
10	Sun, Dec 28	Oakland Raiders	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	Need 6 more volunteers
		TBA Wild Card Playoff					
		TBA Divisional Playoff					
Sun, Feb 1, 09 SUPERBOWL XVI						6:00 PM	



## Knights of Columbus FOURTH DEGREE *Highest degree of Knighthood.*

Many thanks to those who participated in our October visit to the VA Hospital. The Assembly will be making its next visit on Saturday, Dec 13 at 10:00 AM. This will be a Pizza Christmas Party. For more information, contact Herb Swoope [hswoope@msn.com](mailto:hswoope@msn.com) or 813-628- 0699

### Upcoming Assembly Events:

Nov 14 6:30 PM Business Meeting (St Stephen)

Nov 21 6:30 PM Color Corps: St Clement  
10<sup>th</sup> Anniv Mass

Nov 24 6:30 PM Color Corps: St Francis  
Relic Display

Nov 29 Fourth Degree Exemplification  
(Orlando)

Dec 12 6:30 PM Business Meeting (St Clement)

Dec 13 3:15 PM Color Corps: Fr Fitz 50<sup>th</sup> Ord  
Anniv Mass@ St Francis

Thanks to all those who helped out the recent Color Corps events: Fr Eva's Farewell Mass, Corporate Communion for Mother Seton and St Stephen Councils, and Veterans Day ceremonies at Masses at St Stephen and St Clement.

*Rick Hughes*

*Faithful Captain and Color Corps Commander  
Bishop McLaughlin Assembly 1850*

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## Fraternal Agent's Report

As we begin the month of November let us remember our Brother Knights who have passed on along with those spouses who have entered into their holy reward. Remember it was because of such tragedies that Fr. Michael J. McGivney was inspired to start the Knights of Columbus. What if each family were to remember our Founder by praying for his canonization?

We have been overwhelmed this past months with Brother Knights moving money from their IRAs, 401Ks, 403bs, portfolios to the safety (A.M. Best A++ and S&P AAA) of the Order. No Knights have lost any of their principal and their annuities continually grow.

Effective October 1st, the new 800 Series of products has been issued. Premiums are lower as the new mortality tables are in force. This would be a good time to review your situation.

There is now a Guaranteed Issue Whole Life Policy available to those who would otherwise not be insurable. It can be issued through age 65.

The popular Term to Age 30, the lowest premium (about \$3/monthly) child policy will be phased out. If you want it you must apply before year end.

If you want to make deposits into or start an IRA, Roth IRA... for this year, let me know.

In view of the market conditions, the importance of your annual Fraternal Review is paramount. Call me and let me know when you would like to meet.

Fraternally,  
Tom  
625-2444



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST STEPHEN COUNCIL 14084 IS PRESENTING:



### Taking Your Business to the Next Level In Difficult Times

Speaker: Mary Owens Black Diamond Associates



All organizations, regardless of size, are asking their people to do more ... better ... faster while using less financial resources in order to better satisfy their "customers".



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH  
FROM 7:30 UNTIL 8:00 PM  
IN THE MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM



This highly interactive workshop will center around practical ways for organizations to:

- Assess where they are and where they want to be
- Shift focus for new opportunities – not just triage
- Creating rubber meets the road action to close their gaps



### Taking Your Business to the Next Level – In Difficult Times"

Presented By: Mary Owens Black Diamond Associates

As America continues to battle the effects of a soft economy many business owners, organizations and the people in them are living through very challenging and sometimes scary times. All organizations, regardless of size, are asking their people to do more ... better ... faster while using less financial resources in order to better satisfy their "customers".

In order to accomplish this, we have no choice but to undertake a paradigm shift in our thinking. Keep in mind that the definition of insanity is "doing the same things over and over again and expecting the results to be different!!" And the 1st Rule of Holes, "When you're in one, stop digging!" We have to find new ways of solving our problems.

Thanks,  
Vivat Jesus

Rob Fisher





## Committee Reports

### Council Activities

**Our Casino Knight was a success! We raised nearly \$1000 for LifeCare of Brandon and are sure to help save a life.**



- Thanks to all who supported our event, including sponsors, workers, those who donated prizes,

The Council Committee is looking for a few more members. If you want to be part of the Program that schedules the FRA-TERNITY (and fun) for the Council, call me or email me and we'll talk about the details.



- Our next event will be either a Ladies' Appreciation Night or a Field Day Tournament and BBQ. Stay tuned for updates.

Scott Sheffield



## Community Activities

It is the place we call home – with all its good and bad features, its beauty and ugliness, its strengths and weaknesses. Every individual has a voice in shaping the world around him, and every individual can make that voice heard. Make your voice heard in your community. Do more than throw up your hands in despair over what's wrong with the world. Your community offers limitless opportunity for action that can be seen, felt and judged for its true worth. Look for something that's needed and workable in your community – fight poverty, aid individuals with intellectual disabilities, plant a tree, sponsor a blood pressure screening, support law enforcement, campaign for every baby's right to life, help the aged – whatever your community's needs, your members' interests and your council's resources allow.

No matter what you choose ... get involved!

Respect Life Rosary: (Woman's Abortion Clinic) is scheduled for November 8, 2008 at 6:00 a.m. The council is looking for a couple to assist helping the Respect Life program. If you are interested please contact Herbert Swoope at 813-628-0699 or E-Mail [hswoope@msn.com](mailto:hswoope@msn.com).

Respect Life Mission: A ministry of St. Stephen's Parish.

To increase awareness and sensitivity toward respect life issues from conception until natural death within the parish and in the larger community. Our approach is to work within the diocesan guidelines to educate and motivate the Body of Christ through persevering prayer and ongoing positive action.

**MM@SS:** Our ministry is open to anyone, any age, which considers themselves to be a patriot. You do not have to be an active duty military member or veteran. You just have to love our country and want to support those who are currently serving or have served our country. Our motto is, "Patriots Serving Those Who Serve (d)!" Our main missions are to lend aid to military families in our Parrish and to support the church and her efforts. Our vision is to carry out

our mission through social activities and service projects.

Jennifer has booked the ROC Center for Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 till 3:30. The subject will be talking about organizing things for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

### SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED

We have set up December 13, 2008 witch is a Saturday to have our pizza party and hand out gifts to the Veterans at the nursing

**Home. I also got a person the will be Santa and hand out the gifts. I talked to our music director at St. Stephen's and some of our choir members will be there to sing Christmas Carols.**

**Our next step will be to collect White T-Shirts, underwear, socks and maybe some other small items and wrap them up for gifts.**

There are approximately 80 residents. This number varies with short-term respite patients (residents). Sizes mentioned were for T-Shirts 3X thru 5X. Underwear from sizes 38 thru 44 waists. Socks can vary in size.

God Bless  
Herbert Swoope

## Family Activities

Everyone mark your calendars for the council's Family Christmas Social on December 19th (Friday) @ 6:30pm to 10:00pm in the Church multi-purpose room. The council will be providing the meal (Spaghetti, Meatballs, Salad, Bread and Drinks). We ask that you bring your favorite Christmas cookies or desert to share with everyone. See you there.

Thanks

John